

Appl. No. 10/052,342
Amendment and/or Respons
Reply to Office action f 15 January 2004

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REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1, 2, and 5-12, and 15 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, and 5-12 are allowed and claim 15 is believed allowed or allowable but accidentally not included in the list of allowed claims. The Office action states that prosecution for on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *ex parte Quayle*.

Applicant(s) thank(s) the Examiner for acknowledging acceptability of the drawings, the claim for priority, and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

The restriction requirement of the previous Office action having been made final, non-elected claims 3, 4, 13, 14, and 16-21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter. Claim 15 was mischaracterized in the previous Office action and Election as belonging to the wrong invention; claim 15 is of the elected invention and accordingly is not canceled. Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prosecute the subject matter of the non-elected claim(s) in a divisional or other continuing application.

Claim 9 is amended for non-statutory reasons: to remove figure label number(s). The claims are not narrowed in scope and no new matter is added.

All outstanding issues having been resolved, applicant(s) respectfully request(s) that the Examiner find the application in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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